

## The Fat Frog

Into an obscure corner of a pond in a farmer's field, was born a swarm of tadpoles. They came wriggling into their world one sunny morning and began excitedly examining every shell and stone, every weed and reed, over-awed by the wonder of their world. But a fat frog, who was a Doctor of Divinity, soon put a stop to their foolishness.

He assembled them all in one place, made them mind their manners and proceeded with their education. He told them that they had a Duty and an Obligation to the One-Who-Created-All; that there was a Reason why they had been born into this particular pond at this particular period; that there was a pre-ordained Purpose behind their existence.

The fat frog had barely warmed to his theme when a small boy came by and urinated into their pond. The fat-frog was among the first to dive for safety.

## The Martyr

There once lived a man -- a good man, a kind man, a St. Francis of the City's streets -- who believed in the power of love. "Love is omnipotent," he said. "Love can win wars for there is no defense against it. Love," he said, "can work miracles, can calm the savage breast and tame the beasts of the wild. It was Love that saved Daniel in the den of Lions. It will be love that maketh the Lion and the Lamb to lie down together. I shall prove it," he said. "I shall play the part of the Lamb!"

He went with his followers to the city's zoo where there lived a lion -- a rather old and lonely lion, it is true, but a lion in the flesh -- and he opened the cage and stepped inside.

The door closed. The people held their breath. Lo and behold, before their unbelieving eyes, the lion ate him.

-- Bernard Epps

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